

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE: N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

TERMS: One dollar in advance. Money paid by mail will be at the risk of the sender. Don't think this current in New York.

Volume XXVII. No. 53

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving Place.—Italian Opera.—Mansueti.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—Golden Rule.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—Camille.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, No. 64 Broadway.—Helen.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway.—The Merchant of Venice.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—Mousetrap.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—St. Nicholas.

MARY PROCTOR'S THEATRE, 456 Broadway.—Helen.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—Com.

NOTES—LIVING HISTORICAL MUSEUM, No. 43 Broadway.—Barnum's American Museum.

BRYANT'S MINISTERS, Mechanics Hall, 47 Broadway.—The Merchant of Venice.

BOYLE'S MINISTERS, Mechanics Hall, No. 63 Broadway.—The Merchant of Venice.

MELBOURNE CONCERT HALL, 535 Broadway.—Songs.

CANTERBURY MUSIC HALL, 535 Broadway.—Songs.

GAIETY'S CONCERT ROOM, 515 Broadway.—Drawing Room.

AMERICAN MUSIC HALL, 444 Broadway.—Songs.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERT HALL, No. 43 Broadway.—Songs.

MEXICAN MUSEUM, 663 Broadway.—Day and Evening.

PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 563 Broadway.—Open daily from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

NOVELTY MUSIC HALL, 615 Broadway.—Burlington.

New York, Monday, March 24, 1862.

THE SITUATION.

We have another glorious victory to record to-day. Telegraphic despatches received in Washington last night announce that General Shields had a conflict with the rebels, commanded by Generals Jackson, Smith and Longstreet, four miles below Winchester, yesterday, completely routing them, and capturing numbers of prisoners, several cannon, and a large quantity of small arms thrown away in the fight. At last accounts our cavalry was in pursuit of the flying rebels. It appears that General Jackson was under the impression that our troops had left Winchester, and were advancing on the road from Strasburg. When within about a mile and a half of Winchester a skirmish occurred between the advance guard of both armies, in which General Shields was wounded in the arm by the bursting of a shell. The enemy immediately commenced a retreat; but were followed up by the main body of General Shields' army, and an engagement took place, commencing at half past ten yesterday morning, and ending in the entire defeat of the rebels at dusk. The rebels had fifteen thousand men in the field, while the force of General Shields was only eight thousand. The loss on both sides was heavy—that of the rebels, however, nearly doubling that of our side.

We give to-day a very fine map of Island No. 10 in the Mississippi river, its batteries and fortifications on shore, and the position of the rebel gunboats, together with that of our gunboats, mortar boats and transports, which will show the strong point which we are assaulting. There is no further news of the progress of the siege.

The rebel accounts of the late battle at Pea Ridge which we publish to-day are very interesting and curious. The rebel journals claim the fight as a victory, of course, and describe their army as being in the rear of ours, and driving the latter southward; which, it is hardly necessary to state, we know to be an absurd fabrication. They admit, however, the death of Generals McCulloch, McIntosh, Slack and Herbert.

The telegraphic details of the European news, dated to the 9th of March, brought by the America to Halifax, are published this morning. It will be seen that the speech of the Solicitor General of England on the blockade question, in the Commons, was exceedingly emphatic as to the acknowledgment of the efficiency of that measure by the Cabinet, as well as of his opinion of the illegality and danger from public disapproval at home of any interference with the operations of our government towards keeping the rebel ports closed. He stated that the present blockade was more effective than that instituted by England against America in a former war, when five hundred American privateers went to sea in the face of it, and that it was better maintained than the British blockade of Havre in 1793.

Mr. Gregory's speech against the blockade proves that the "sympathizers" with the rebels in Parliament are rank abolitionists, and look to the disruption of the Union as a certain means of extinguishing slavery.

The London Army and Navy Gazette—an excellent authority—doubts the reports of the strength of the Southern army in Virginia, from the fact of the troops of the confederacy being so quickly whipped in Tennessee.

The British authorities at Gibraltar have ordered that the movements of the Sumter and Tascara shall not be signalled for the benefit of either belligerent.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The new steamship Caledonia, Captain James Clarke, of the Anchor Line of Atlantic steamers, reached this port yesterday morning from Glasgow after a very stormy passage. The Caledonia has been built by Messrs. Handyside & Henderson, of Scotland. She is of two thousand five hundred tons burden and measures in length 252 feet, two feet nine inches. She is propelled by a pair of direct engines of 136 horse power each, and her accommodation for passengers is spoken of as very good. The Caledonia experienced a detention of seven days in the ice in the vicinity of Cape Race, which point she reached on the seventh day out. She was surrounded for six days by bergs rising from ten to seventy-five feet above the surface of the water. The Caledonia is consigned to Messrs. Francis Macdonald & Co.

We learn that during the gallant action at Valverde, near Fort Craig, on the 21st ultimo, one of the companies of the Seventh United States Infantry, under Captain P. W. L. Plympton, bravely stood to their arms until over one-half of those

who composed the body were either killed or wounded. The report relative to the cowardice of the New Mexican troops is more than confirmed by the same source of intelligence. The whole of the Union force in action only numbered seven hundred, with but six guns, while the rebel force exceeded three thousand. Captain Plympton fortunately escaped injury.

The first nine Congressional districts of this State, as reported in the Legislature, which embrace the cities of New York and Brooklyn, contain three hundred and thirty-two thousand six hundred more inhabitants than are embraced in the last nine districts, which are located in the northern and western sections of the State. New York and Brooklyn are thus cheated out of two representatives at least.

The gunboats Monticello, Zouave, Dragon and Albion, and government steamers Hunter, Woods, Mystic and Flag, are all now at Baltimore undergoing repairs.

Thirteen vessels of the Gloucester (Mass.) fishing fleet, it is supposed, were lost on Georges Banks in the gale of the 25th of February. The crews of these vessels numbered one hundred and twenty men, and they have left seventy widows and two hundred and fourteen children.

The Tennessee river expedition consists of three gunboats and one hundred transports—all steamers. Mrs. Martha L. Watkins, an account of whose flight from Arkansas we recently published, died in St. Louis on the 18th inst. She had been driven from her home near Fayetteville, Ark., by the rebels, and being in a situation that required the tenderest care, she contracted disease from the fatigue and exposure to which she was subjected during her flight, which caused her death. Her husband had previously been compelled to flee on account of his Union sentiments; but what became of him Mrs. Watkins never learned.

The floating battery which the rebels have at Island No. 10 is the old New Orleans Pelican dry dock. It has been iron-clad, and mounts fifteen guns.

On Friday last Messrs. Bushnell, Griswold, Winslow & Co., capitalists, whose funds built the Monitor, received a contract from the government for building six additional iron-cased vessels, on the same plan as governed them in the construction of the Monitor. The new vessels are to be each thirty-five feet longer than the present Monitor, and are to carry two fifteen-inch Dahlgren guns. The largest proportion of the iron casing will be done at Troy.

The Rev. Mr. Givon, Chaplain of the United States steam frigate Roanoke, yesterday morning preached, by invitation, at the York street Methodist Episcopal church, Jersey City. The church was crowded, and the discourse of the reverend gentleman was stirring and patriotic. He dwelt forcibly on the necessity for the revival of prayer for the early cessation of the war, and in the course of his sermon alluded to the recent battle at Hampton Roads, and to the timely appearance of the Monitor, which, he denoted not, was the result of the earnest prayers of the families of our brave sailors and soldiers, who miss them from their homes. The congregation was deeply affected.

Specs were better Saturday, especially after the receipt of the news from Europe. The most active stocks of the day were Toledo and Erie, both of which were considerably higher at the close. Government bonds in good demand. Money was fairly active at previous quotations. Exchange was dull. The cotton market of the day was \$64.75.

The cotton market was excited on Saturday, and prices closed at an advance of about 1/16c. per lb. As many holders withdrew their supplies from the market, sales were restricted to about 160 to 200 bales, closing in the afternoon on the basis of 25c. a 25/16c. per lb. for middling uplands. It was believed that the reaction commenced in Liverpool, advice of which was brought by the America, would prove more permanent and progressive than any previous movement of the kind, or that it would likely be onward and upward, so far as anything to the contrary could now be seen. The cotton market was inactive, and sales limited chiefly to the home trade, while prices were sustained. Wheat was quiet and sales limited, while quotations were about the same, though in the absence of transactions of moment they were nominal for most descriptions. Corn was in fair demand, though barely so firm, at steady prices. The sales of western mixed at \$1.50 a 50c. in store, and at 60c. delivered. Pork was heavy and dull, with sales of new mess at \$13.37 1/2 a \$13.50. Sugar was quiet and steady, while the sales were confined to about 140 hds, mostly within the range of 8 1/2c. a 7 1/2c., with a few bids, a fraction above and under these figures. Coffee was quiet, and no sales of moment were reported. Freight was steady, and the rates current within a day or two past were fully sustained.

The Course of England in Our Civil War—Let Her Look Out for the Consequences.

Every arrival from Europe brings us fresh intelligence of the continued retrograde movement of England in reference to our national troubles. By the news to the 9th inst., brought by the America to Halifax, which we published yesterday by telegraph, we learn that in a debate in the House of Commons the list of upwards of three hundred vessels, handed in by Mr. Mason as having broken the blockade, had dwindled down to nineteen, and most of these escaped on dark and stormy nights. So much for the veracity of the chivalrous Mason, whose performances in the same line had been previously exhibited by Lord John Russell. But the important feature of the news is that the Solicitor General, the law officer of the Crown, "strongly opposed any interference by England in our national struggle," and declared that "the blockade had been as efficient as other blockades in former years." This settles the question of the effectiveness of the blockade. The legal authority whom the British government is bound to consult admits that the blockade is in strict accordance with the law of nations, and cannot be impugned.

Now this is a complete recession from the ground formerly maintained in the British Parliament in the British press, and by many of the British naval officers in the fleet of observation of the Gulf coast. England has evidently abandoned her hostile attitude, and the withdrawal of her troops from Mexico is another evidence of her appreciation of the dangerous position into which she had been precipitated by her cupidity and her jealous intolerance of a great maritime and commercial rival. But though England has, in a variety of ways, intimated that she has washed her hands clean of our national troubles, and has done with the business, she may find out before all is over that the American republic has not done with her.

From the period of the Revolution, and indeed long before, a very hostile feeling has existed in this country against England, still within the last few years. Her injustice to the colonies, and the cruelty with which she conducted the war for their subjugation, employing the scimitar and the tomahawk of the Indian savage to accomplish what she failed to achieve by legitimate warfare, rankled in the hearts of the American people long after the peace. This feeling had in a great measure subsided by the effects of time, when it was again revived by the war of 1812-15, and the events which led to that struggle. But that generation had passed away, and an era of good feeling gradually sprang up from the increasing commercial intercourse between the two nations. Our enthusiastic reception of the Prince of Wales in the fall of 1860 was a striking evidence of the change; so much so, indeed,

that it gave rise to a false suspicion that the course of the nation was tending towards monarchy. Upon the very heels of this remarkable exhibition of the entire cordiality England seized the opportunity presented by the insurrection which the money and the arms of her aristocracy had done so much to foment, threw off the mask, and avowed her real feeling towards the American people, by acknowledging the belligerent rights of the rebellious States, the first step towards acknowledging their independence; and in this view of the fact that in the Canadian rebellion in 1837, and the revolutionary movements in Ireland in 1848, the American government took no part, though it was in its power to render revolution successful in both countries.

For a long time the North thought the South was not in earnest, and appeared so apathetic that British statesmen regarded the final separation of the slave from the free States as a foregone conclusion; and their presses, from the ponderous quarterlies down to the flippant weekly journals, openly exulted in the idea that the republic was dead and gone, and that democratic institutions had proved a failure. This the British oligarchy deemed the proper time to drive home the dividing wedge which their intrigues had inserted. The cause of the slave States was warmly espoused by those who had petted and fêted the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and supplied the sinews of war to John Brown—those whose abhorrence of the Southern institution had been always expressed in terms of measureless abuse. Aid and comfort were lavished by them upon the slave-holding domestic enemies of the United States. Hopes were held out to the traitors that the blockade would be raised by the superior naval power of England, and that the independence of the Southern confederacy would be recognized at an early day. The leading British newspapers were incessant in their violent tirades against the federal government and the Northern States. It was concluded as a settled fact, either that the independence of the Confederate States would be allowed to go by default, or that they would be able to maintain it by the sword. But the first rebel gun fired at Fort Sumter dispelled the illusion, and soon a change came over the spirit of the British dream. The North awoke from its slumber, and rushed to the conflict "like a giant refreshed with new wine." Such an energy was never displayed before except in the case of the French Revolution. No other nation has ever been able, in so short a time, to bring into the field so many well armed and equipped troops, thoroughly drilled and disciplined. No nation in Europe can do it to-day.

With that instinct of self-preservation which has always marked the career of the English aristocracy, they soon perceived the peril by which they were surrounded, and they began to pull in their horns. This was the cause of the easy terms of the settlement of the Trent affair—a settlement, however, against which the American nation entered a silent protest, intending to settle it in a different manner at a more convenient season. Now that the disasters of Big Bethel, Bull Run and Ball's Bluff have been wiped out by the far more substantial victories of Hatteras, Fort Royal, Roanoke Island, Mill Springs, Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, and the capture of Nashville, the writhing, unblinking face of old Britannia is wreathed in simulated smiles, as she hobbles awkwardly out of her dilemma, bowing and scraping as she retreats backwards from the presence of the vigorous young Genius of Liberty whom she has so lately insulted. What will she say when she hears of Newbern, New Madrid, St. Augustine, Brunswick, Jacksonville, Fernandina, Pea Ridge, and probably soon of the capture of Richmond?

There is no parallel in history to the meanness and perfidy of her course. How strangely does her precipitate backing out contrast with the indecent haste with which she rushed into the quarrel. But North and South understand her like a book. She has played false to both, and both long for the day of retribution. Already the South denounces her selfishness and "Punic faith," and, in order to deprive her of cotton, proposes to burn every bale. Relying upon her professed sympathies and secret promises, the Confederates entered upon the conflict in the confidence that England would surely raise the blockade, if she did not actually form an alliance with them. As the devil always does with the victims who trust in him, she left them in the lurch in the critical hour of their need. And now, that their chances of success are desperate, they turn with impatience to avenge the treachery. The tendency is to induce them to submit to the federal authority, and unite with the North in punishing the nation whose machinations, aided by a handful of abolition traitors, originated the rebellion and the civil war.

England has libelled both sections of the country, and when they are reunited let her expect the rewards of her deeds. She has sown the wind; she will reap the whirlwind. The energy of the United States in organizing an invincible army and an impregnable navy, the grand results already achieved and to be hereafter achieved by the war, will demonstrate the strength of the republic and the stability and permanence of democratic institutions; and the result in Europe, combined with the distress arising from the injury inflicted by the war on the commercial and manufacturing interests, will be to give a grand impetus to the cause of democracy and to rekindle the flames of revolution. Napoleon will probably save himself by riding upon the whirlwind and directing the storm. But the British oligarchy are doomed, and the people will throw off their yoke forever, as the French people long since have done in the case of their nobility. The French Revolution is yet to be finished in England. In that day her aristocracy will call upon the United States for help; but they will call in vain. So far from giving them aid and comfort, we will commend to their own lips the poisoned chalice they lately presented to ours; and not only will the independence of Mexico be maintained, and Canada cut loose from the sinking old bulk of the British empire, and every island in the West Indies which now owns English sway be set free to choose its own destiny, but the white slaves of England, Scotland and Ireland will be "redeemed, regenerated and glorified by the genius of universal emancipation."

ALBERT PIKE AND HIS INDIANS.—Our readers are familiar with the fact that the rebel forces in Arkansas are in part comprised of the savage red men of the frontier, tribes whose mode of warfare is abhorrent to every civilized idea of what warfare should be, and whose conduct in the field at the recent battle of Pea Ridge did no discredit to their barbarous nature. The

leader of this band of auxiliaries is Mr. Albert Pike, of Arkansas, a "Northern man with Southern principles," as the rebel newspapers delight to call him—a poet and an orator, a politician and a soldier. Alas! that the latter title should be so dishonored. The special duty of Mr. Albert Pike in this contest appears to be to hover over the field of battle with his band of untamed Indians, tomahawking the dying and scalping the dead. The instinct and training of the Indian may afford some excuse for such a method of warfare. Nature brought him forth a savage, and, where the influences of civilization do not reach him, he is a savage still. But what can be said for the white man who turns the tomahawk and the scalping knife upon his own kindred?

It is stated that a Northern man—particularly a Northern abolitionist—when he goes South and obtains an interest in the institution of that section, makes the most relentless taskmaster. The man who at the North whines the most piously over the sorrows of the slave becomes at the South his most merciless persecutor. Albert Pike, of Arkansas, hails from New England, though for many years he has been a Southern slaveowner and an earnest advocate of Southern interests and institutions. In his career, then, we find no exception to the rule; but he appears to have imbibed, with the change of place, a ferocity of nature and a disregard for all the qualities of mercy for which, heretofore, there has been no parallel. He had earned the reputation of a fair poet, an accomplished speaker, a good lawyer and an able political writer. To all this versatility of talent he has added now a genius for bloodthirsty and cowardly deeds from which human nature shrinks with horror.

IRON-CLAD WAR VESSELS ON THE MONITOR SYSTEM.—Our remarks with reference to the new turret ship proposed by Captain Coles, in England, has called forth a communication from Captain Ericsson which removes all doubts as to the priority of invention. Captain Ericsson, we now learn, on the 26th of September, 1854, forwarded to the Emperor of France an elaborate plan and description of an impregnable iron vessel, provided with a revolving semi-globular turret or cupola, made of plate iron six inches thick and sixteen feet diameter, placed in the centre of the vessel and furnished with heavy ordnance, which turned with the cupola or turret, as in the Monitor, by means of steam power. The Emperor, we also learn, promptly acknowledged the receipt of the plans, approving of the invention in flattering terms.

Captain Ericsson informs us that he will at once address the Emperor, requesting his Majesty to forward a copy of the plan. It is indeed fortunate for the originator of the new system that he can establish his claim to priority of invention in a definite manner by such high testimony. As to the comparative destructive power of the intended British ship with six turrets, twelve Armstrong one-hundred-pounders and twelve hundred pound broadside, we need only call attention to our remarks a few days ago respecting the capability of the Monitor to carry two of the twenty-inch guns now being made by order of the Navy Department. These two guns throw each an eleven hundred pound shot; so that we have here a vastly superior broadside of twenty-two hundred pounds to oppose the British cupola ship. Besides this, we have no evidence that this ship will be as impregnable as the Monitor, and no reason to suppose that her propeller and rudder will be, as in the latter vessel, absolutely protected against shot.

With regard to speed, the country will learn with satisfaction that the Navy Department is just now making contracts for impregnable vessels that will beat the twelve knot cupola ship. The harbor defence vessels of the Monitor class, it is true, will not make twelve knots; but, on the other hand, a single such vessel can, owing to its light draught, take up a safe position in shoal water and sink a whole fleet of the deep draught cupola ships during their passage along the channels of our harbors.

THE EFFICIENCY OF THE BLOCKADE ACKNOWLEDGED.—It will be seen by the proceedings of the British Parliament that the efficiency of the American blockade is now fully recognized by the government of England. The admission of the Solicitor General, one of the highest law officers of the Crown, to that effect, and his expressed opposition to any interference of his country in the matter, and establish his declaration as the opinion also of the government. Other European nations will doubtless follow in acknowledging the efficiency of the blockade. They will have no difficulty in doing so now that the leading maritime Power has pronounced in its favor and declines to interfere with it.

Every day now renders the blockade still more complete and efficacious; for we are rapidly repossessing ourselves of all the forts and defences of the coast. We hold Fortress Monroe, the defences at Hatteras, Fort Pickens, Fort Clinch at Fernandina, and Fort Marion at St. Augustine, Florida. The other forts along the Atlantic and Gulf shores will soon be in our hands, and every important Southern port will thus be effectually blocked, almost without the assistance of our naval vessels.

SINGULAR DEVELOPMENTS OF THE HOSTILITY AGAINST GENERAL McCLELLAN.—In the columns of the New York Tribune and Times it is given out that from General Wadsworth has emanated the series of attacks on General McClellan which have appeared in the columns of the Tribune, and have been offered to other journals. Indeed, the Hon. Mr. Raymond, Speaker of the New York Assembly, makes no secret of the fact that he has received a letter purporting to be from General Wadsworth, but which was so gross and violent in its abuse of General McClellan that he declined to insert it, and returned it to the author. Greeley and his collaborators of the Tribune have given out that the elaborate and furious onslaughts in the Tribune, about a fortnight ago, denouncing McClellan as a military charlatan, and even hinting that he is disloyal to the cause of the Union, emanated from the same source—General Wadsworth, Military Governor of Washington. Can these statements be true? To us they appear to be incredible. General Wadsworth is a native of the western part of this State, is chairman of the Republican State Committee; he is really, has travelled in Europe, and is in every way a respectable gentleman. It is not possible that he could be guilty of what has been laid to his charge. Yet his name has been used by the editors of the Tribune and Times and their coteries to back up their attacks, private and public, upon the military

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reputation and loyal character of General McClellan. It is too preposterous and too revolting for credence, and the journalists in question ought to be called to account for the atrocious calumny.

The Hegira of Jeff Davis.

The hegira of Jeff Davis! What a theme for the historian! What a volume of matter is comprised in that brief sentence, the hegira of Jeff Davis! It stands before us, too, not as a probable impending event, but as a certainty. D. M. Currin and J. D. C. Atkins, two members from Tennessee in the rebel Congress at Richmond, have telegraphed the Memphis Appeal, March 11, that "President Davis is coming West soon. He will everybody to his standard." This is official, and we dare say that, by this time, Jeff is beyond the boundaries of Virginia.

Hegira! Hegira! defines it as an Arabic word, "from hegira, to remove, to desert." In chronology, an epoch among the Mohammedans from which they compute time. The event which gave rise to it was the flight of Mohammed from Mecca; from which the magistrates, fearing his impostures might raise a sedition, expelled him, July 16, A. D. 622." This explanation makes the word hegira exceedingly appropriate to this Western journey of Davis; but the parallel will hold no further, unless Jeff shall succeed in escaping into Mexico, and shall there recover from his fallen fortunes. That he is en route for Mexico we have no doubt; but that he will reach the Mississippi river in season to cross it without detection is not so certain.

For some days past we have been deprived of our usual fugitive Norfolk and Richmond newspapers, from which we suspect that the whole rebel government and rebel army of Virginia are in motion for the Southwest. Indeed this was made manifest the other day with the discovery that the rebel armed forces had abandoned Aquia creek, a point as essential to their reported new defensive line as was Leesburg to their left flank of the line of Manassas. And the news is abroad that they have vacated Fredericksburg, which means the whole of the line of the Rappahannock; and where are they to halt inside of Virginia? At Richmond? We think not; for that place is comparatively defenceless, and being on the north bank of the James river, is too much exposed to the army of McClellan to make it a safe halting place for the demoralized and panic-stricken forces of the rebel Johnston. He is a cautious and sagacious leader, and will not risk the last throw of his dice with the odds so heavily against him, in a useless effort to save Richmond or Virginia, which are already lost.

In our statements of a month ago, of the most probable immediate effects of the loss of Nashville and Manassas to the rebels, we indicated the movements which they are now proceeding to carry out. We mean the withdrawal of all their forces from the border States, and their concentration upon some strong defensive points in the cotton States. We believe, too, that the bulk of the rebel forces will be concentrated in the Valley of the Mississippi, and in view of the last necessity of fighting there, way across the Mississippi river, and Louisiana and Texas, into Mexico, and that this retreating army will be made to serve as the convoy of Jeff Davis and all the officers of his rebel government, and all other active rebel conspirators, who are not prepared to trust to the chances of repentance or an amnesty.

This is our interpretation of this warlike trip of Jeff Davis to the Southwest. He is bound for Mexico. But what a fall is this from his high estate! About this time last year his orators and newspaper organs, from Richmond to New Orleans, proclaimed the White House at Washington as his destination, Maryland as an indispensable part of his confederation, and the line of the Ohio river as his inevitable Northern boundary in the West. We think it was in March or April last that Mrs. Jefferson Davis sent a letter—a well authenticated letter—to a friend in Washington, desiring the plate marked "Mrs. Jefferson Davis," upon one of the pew doors of Trinity church, in Washington, to be retained there, for that within a few months she expected to reoccupy said comfortable pew. Nor did this appear as a vain and foolish boast at that time; for it was not until after General McClellan's indefatigable labors of July and August last, in reorganizing our Potomac army and in strengthening its defences, that we of the North were relieved of all fears concerning the safety of Washington.

But what a fall has followed in the hopes, threats and promises of his rebellious Excellency Jeff Davis, and of that more amiable and enthusiastic rebel, our "Lady Davis," as she is styled, and, doubtless, from her great personal attractions, by the rebel chivalry of the South. The White House, Washington city, Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Arkansas, have been overcome by "the armed heroes of the Lincoln government," and now Virginia, and its beautiful capital of Richmond, must be abandoned at the approach of McClellan and his "Yankees." Was there ever such a prodigious and comprehensive programme in any other rebellion in the history of mankind as that upon which Jeff Davis was advanced in triumph to Richmond? Was there ever such an ignominious failure in any rebellious conspiracy as that which marks the hegira of Jeff Davis from the "Old Dominion?"

BLESSINGS OF REBEL RULE.—One of the immediate fruits of the rebellion was to close up all the common schools South. Its duration for a few years would consequently have the effect of entirely suspending the progress of education and reducing the slave States to a condition bordering on barbarism. One of the first results of the occupation of Nashville by the federal troops was the reopening of all the public schools. Thus, whilst civilization flies at the approach of the rebels, it follows in the wake of our arms.

SIR JAMES FERGUSON AGAIN.—When Sir James Fergusson and other members of the British Parliament paid a visit to this country some months ago, we took occasion to animadvert upon the probable objects of their mission, and to suggest that in the case of Sir James Fergusson at least there was much cause to suspect that this visit had for its object the furtherance of the then incipient rebellion. Coming here as members of the Parliament of an independent and neutral nation, we did not think the course pursued by these gentlemen was very decorous or fair, and we said no more than once. Sir James Fergusson took offence at our comments, and indignantly denied the insinuations that he in any way favored the treason of the Southern States. Sir James has, however, just given evidence against himself by his action

in the British Parliament during the debate upon the American blockade. On that occasion he took sides with the rebel States, and strenuously advocated the breaking of the Southern blockade by the British government. Sir James Fergusson has therefore, with his own lips, openly verified everything we said about him.

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YANCY NOT CAPTURED.—ORIGIN OF THE RUMOR.—It turns out after all that the arch-traitor Yancey is still at large, and that the statement of his having recently made a speech in New Orleans has some probability in it. We learn from our correspondent at Key West, the manner in which the rumor of his capture got started. It appears that Commander Ridgely, of the Santiago de Cuba, received a letter from the American Consul General at Havana informing him that Yancey had sailed for a Southern port in the William Mallory. On the 9th, after the receipt of this intelligence, the Water Witch arrived at Key West, having on board the captain and crew of this vessel, who also had captured on the 5th off St. Andrews Bay. The people of Key West were thrown into a state of great excitement by the rumor, which immediately got into circulation, that Mr. Yancey was among the prisoners